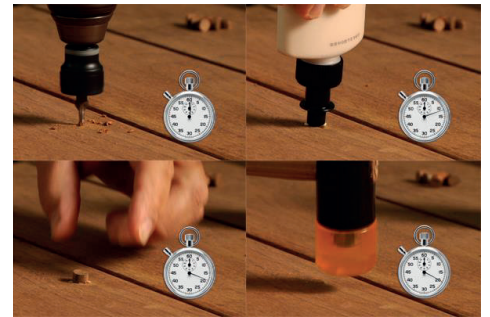
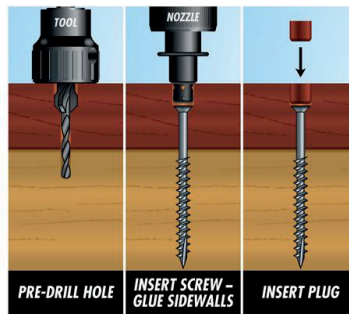


# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## Black Label™ Pro Plug System Installation Notes



### 1) Required Tools

- A. Deck Straightening Wrench. (Wood decking has a naturally occurring bow which can be easily removed during installation with a deck straightening tool).
- B. High-Speed Corded Drill (Unlike cordless drills where RPMs may diminish with battery drain, high-speed corded drills maintain consistent RPM, which results in improved bit performance and service life).
- C. A Hole Location Jig similar to the Deck Master System (Drilling Jigs assure consistent aesthetic placement of screws and plugs).
- D. Hammer (Plastic Smooth Face).
- E. Sharp Chisel - 1/2" or wider (If screws are not set properly or debris enters the hole before the plug installation, the plug may sit prominently and require trim. Trim plugs cutting in the direction of the grain using hand pressure only).

- F. Sandpaper (120 grit) (As the Pro Plug Tool for Wood becomes less sharp during use, fuzzing around the edge of the countersink hole may appear, which can easily be removed with a light hand sanding).
- G. Small Hand Router w/1/8" radius bit – optional (using a small hand router to break the deck board ends improves finished product aesthetics and board-end to board-end transitions).
- H. Black Label™ Pro Plug Tool for Wood (The Black Label™ Pro Plug Tool for Wood will service differently by wood type. The following are estimates only of holes per tool between tool replacements. Actual usage may be impacted by variations in species density, moisture content, and installation conditions).
  - H.1 Hardwood like Ipe and Garapa (350-500)
  - H.2 Treated or Modified Softwoods like Kebony (500 to 750)
- I. Black Label™ Pro Plug Stainless Steel Screws (Minimum screw length requirement is typically calculated at 1.5 times the thickness of the deck board that is being installed).
  - I.1 1x decking (net .75" thickness) – #8x2.5"
  - I.2 5/4x decking (net 1" thickness) - #8x2.5"
- J. #T-20 Star Drive Bits.
- K. Exterior Grade Glue such as Franklin International 1413 Titebond III or Elmers E7310 Carpenters Wood Glue Max (It is essential to utilize a good quality waterproof glue, any excess of which can be easily wiped off during application).
- L. Black Label™ Pro Plug Glue Applicator (The applicator ejector ports must be kept clean during use and cleaned or replaced between uses).
- M. Black Label™ Pro Plugs (The unique tapered design of Pro Plugs, when used as part of the Black Label™ Pro Plug Tool for Wood, screw and glue applicator system, virtually eliminates the need for post-installation plug cutting, grinding, chiseling, or sanding).

## 2) Installation (Step by Step)

- A. Installation Conditions (Make sure the weather conditions are dry and the decking is sufficiently acclimated, clean, and free of dirt and debris).
- B. Select and trim the deck board to the desired length.
- C. End seal deck boards (see Manufactures recommendations).
- D. Radius Deck Ends - Optional
- E. Lay deck board in the desired location.
- F. Use straightening wrenches to ensure the board is straight and properly located.
- G. Black Label™ Deck Spacer and Marking Guide to establish consistent hole locations.
- H. Drill holes with countersinks at desired locations using Black Label™ Drill and Countersink (make sure any drilling debris is removed from the hole after drilling and countersinking).
- I. Set Screws with the Black Label™ Kryptonite Bit (make sure screws are well set. Do not over torque as over torque may cause board splitting, especially at board ends).
- J. Apply glue using the Black Label™ Pro Plug Glue applicator.
- K. Align the surface grain of the plug with the grain of the deck board.
- L. Apply Black Label™ Pro Plug and set with a hammer until flush. (Do not delay the application of glue and plug after drilling and countersinking. Countersinking exposes wood fiber to potential moisture absorption, which could negatively affect the proper fit of plugs).
- M. If the plug sits prominently, use a sharp chisel to remove the excess by gently pressing the chisel along the grain of the plug. (This may indicate that debris remains in the hole or that the Pro Plug Tool for Wood has become too dull and should be replaced).

- N. Wipe away any excess glue.
  - O. Sand if required.
  - P. Touch up finish if required.
  - Q. Move on to the next board.
  - R. Finish deck boards if desired. The use of prefinished Black Label™ decking will require the application of sealer to plugs after installation. (Follow manufacturer recommendations).
  - S. Left unfinished, Pro Plugs will weather to a natural silver-grey patina.
- 

